

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00
OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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OSD:LMICHAEL
S/S: LRFLEISCHER

-----079249 030421Z /16

O R 022330Z SEP 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USMISSION NATO
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 211556

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, MBFR, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR BILATERAL AND TRILATERAL MEETINGS

REFS: (A) STATE 182689; (B) STATE 188740; (C) BONN 14332

1. AS ADDRESSEES ARE AWARE (REFTELS A & B), BILATERAL
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AND TRILATERAL MBFR MEETING WITH FRG AND WITH UK AND FRG
ARE SCHEDULED FOR SEPT. 12-13 IN WASHINGTON AND SEPT. 22-
23 IN LONDON, RESPECTIVELY. SCHEDULING CONFLICTS WHICH
HAVE ARISEN RECENTLY, INCLUDING IN PARTICULAR THE
RESCHEDULING OF THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH FOREIGN
MINISTER GROMYKO TO SEPT. 22-23 IN WASHINGTON, HAVE MADE
IT DESIRABLE FROM US POINT OF VIEW TO POSTPONE MBFR

TRILATERAL MEETING FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS.

2. FOR LONDON: PLEASE APPROACH FCO AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL
AND MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. BRITISH WILL HAVE NOTED THAT MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY
OF STATE VANCE AND FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO HAS BEEN
RESCHEDULED FOR SEPT. 22-23 IN WASHINGTON.

B. THESE DATES, OF COURSE, CONFLICT WITH PLANNED DATES
FOR FRG-UK-US TRILATERAL MBFR MEETING IN LONDON.

C. SINCE PRESENCE IN WASHINGTON ON SEPT. 22-23 OF
CERTAIN US OFFICIALS WHO PLAN TO ATTEND LONDON TRILATERAL
IS NOW HIGHLY DESIRABLE, WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE
POSTPONEMENT OF THE LONDON MEETING.

D. OTHER COMMITMENTS OF THOSE OFFICIALS MAKE IT IMPOS-
SIBLE FOR THEM TO BE AWAY FROM WASHINGTON DURING WEEK
OF SEPT. 26. BEARING THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN MIND, WE
WOULD SUGGEST RESCHEDULING LONDON MEETING FOR WEEK OF
OCT. 3, PERHAPS ON OCT. 6-7.

E. WASHINGTON GREATLY REGRETS NECESSITY OF REQUESTING
POSTPONEMENT, BUT SEES NO ALTERNATIVE IN LIGHT OF THESE
SCHEDULING CONFLICTS.

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3. FOR BONN: PLEASE CONTACT ARMS CONTROL COMMISSIONER
RUTH, WHO PLANS TO LEAD FRG DELEGATION TO BOTH BILATERAL
AND TRILATERAL MEETINGS, AND INFORM HIM THAT, IN LIGHT
OF NEW PLANS FOR MEETING BETWEEN SECSTATE AND GROMYKO
ON SEPT. 22-23, WE ARE APPROACHING BRITISH ALONG ABOVE
LINES TO REQUEST POSTPONEMENT OF TRILATERAL MBFR MEETING.
EMBASSY SHOULD NOTE THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO GO AHEAD WITH
US-FRG BILATERAL ON SEPT. 12-13, AS SCHEDULED. EMBASSY
SHOULD CONVEY WASHINGTON'S REGRETS FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE
CAUSED BY THE UNAVOIDABLE POSTPONEMENT OF THE LONDON
TRILATERAL, AND EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT RUTH WILL BE ABLE
TO ACCEPT ALTERNATIVE DATES OF OCT. 6-7, ASSUMING BRITISH
ARE PREPARED TO HOST MEETING ON THOSE DATES. CHRISTOPHER

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